

19 January 2012
CL #1051154

Statement of: [REDACTED] the complainant, relative to allegations made that on 03 January 2012, at 1330 hours; she was approached by [REDACTED] (Female black offender) who used deceptive practices to convince [REDACTED] to withdraw \$10,000.00 USC from MB Financial Bank at [REDACTED]. On 09 January 2012, [REDACTED] was contacted via telephone by an offender identifying himself as Lt. BROOKS from the Chicago Police Department (calling from #847-505-4278). BROOKS asked [REDACTED] to meet him in the parking lot of the 17th District in order to investigate the offenders who were now in custody for taking \$10,000.00 from her on 03 January 2012.

Statement taken at: Internal Affairs Office, 3510 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, 60653

Questioned by: Police Officer Donald L. EDWARDS # 5560 Unit 121

Typed by: Police Officer Donald L. EDWARDS # 5560 Unit 121

Date and Time: 19 January 2012, 1115 hours

Witnessed by: P.O. Luis ALEJO #10381; Ellen KAPOOR (Daughter)

IDENTIFICATION QUESTIONS

EDWARDS: What is your full name, address and phone number?

EDWARDS: What is your date of birth?

EDWARDS: Before we begin the formal questions and answer statement, I am going to show you a document known as a Sworn Affidavit. Illinois law (50 ILCS 725/3.8) requires that anyone filing a complaint against a sworn police officer must have the complaint supported by a Sworn Affidavit. According to Illinois law (720 ILCS 5/1 – 109), any person who file a false complaint may be subject to criminal charges or a civil suit.

Have I explained why the Sworn Affidavit is required and the legal consequences under Illinois State law?

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[REDACTED]

Yes.

EDWARDS:

[REDACTED]

Do you have any questions regarding the Sworn Affidavit?
No.

EDWARDS:

[REDACTED]

Please explain what happened on 09 January 2012, at approximately 1300 hours.

On 09 January 2012, I was contacted via telephone by a man identifying himself as Lt. BROOKS from the Chicago Police Department (calling from #847-505-4278). BROOKS asked me to meet him in the parking lot of the 17th District in order to investigate the offenders who were now in custody for taking \$10,000.00 from me on 03 January 2012. After the phone call I went right away to the 17th District because I was so excited, I canceled an appointment with my daughter [REDACTED] to see Northwestern University. Because I told Lt. BROOKS what car I was driving, I gave him the model and license plate of my car, when I parked inside the 17th District, he approached me. He said, I am Lt. BROOKS and I noticed a silver star hanging on his neck. He said lets go to another place, like Starbucks so that I can ask you other questions there. I agreed to go to Starbucks because he wanted to make sure we would meet in private, away from reporters and cameras. Lt. BROOKS then got into my car and I drove to the Starbucks at Pulaski and Lawrence (4830 N. Pulaski). I parked in the lot and we never went inside, but we talked in my car. Lt. BROOKS then told me a story about his own mother getting scammed of 42,000.00. Lt. BROOKS asked if I had any proof that I met the people who took my money. I then gave him a piece of paper with [REDACTED] telephone number, address and office number. He then showed me a piece of paper with my address and home phone number. Lt. BROOKS asked if I recognized the piece of paper. When I saw it, I was so excited because that meant that what he told me was true, they did have the people who took my money in custody. Lt. BROOKS then said, "we need help from people like you, to catch people who pass on fake money." He then said that MB Financial, Chase, 5th 3rd Bank and the Chicago Gold Coin Company, 6455 W. Archer are being investigated for fake money and a part of the sting they are conducting. Lt. BROOKS then said that my participation in the investigation would require me to make a wire transfer and buy gold. I then asked him for a business card which Lt. BROOKS did not produce, I then asked for another person because I was getting a little nervous because he needed me

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to make another withdrawal. Lt. BROOKS then said he would contact his boss (at 847-505-4278), Capt. JAMESON. Lt. BROOKS called, but said that no one was around his desk. He did give me the phone and I then spoke to a secretary who let me speak to Capt. JAMESON. Capt. JAMESON said that there are a lot of reporters in the police station so he could not get a card to give me. Then I just forgot about getting a second person and I don't remember if Capt. JAMESON said he could not come out to meet us. We then went to the FedEx store on Lincoln and Devon to do a wire transfer via the internet. Lt. BROOKS gave me the number to the Gold coin place in order to get an ABA number and account number of the gold coin place so that I could complete the wire transfer. I spoke Don TISCH, gold coin employee who gave me their store hours and the information I needed to complete a purchase of gold coins. At FedEx, Lt. BROOKS had a prepaid card so that I could use the computer. I tried to do the wire transfer to the gold coins place (6455 W. Archer Ave, 60638) but I was not able to do it because it would take 5 days to complete. When Lt. BROOKS saw that it would take 5 days to complete the transfer he said, "we can not do that because we have to finish the investigation in one day." I said, then lets go to MB bank so that I can get a cashier's check to withdraw the money. On the way to MB bank, Lt. BROOKS saw a Sprint shop and said, "I have a problem with my cell phone so please drop me off so that I can take care of it and you can go inside the bank." I then withdrew \$28,577.00 in a cashier's check payable to the Chicago Gold Coin shop, on Archer and I took out an additional \$14,000.00 in cash. I then waited inside the MB bank because I told him to meet me. I then called Capt. JAMESON and told him that Lt. BROOKS was suppose to meet me inside, Capt. JAMESON said that he was outside waiting for me and that that was a miscommunication. LT. BROOKS then said we would now go to the Gold coin shop to buy the gold coins. He instructed me to go inside, buy the 17 gold coins and don't say too much. Lt. BROOKS then stayed in my car until I made the purchase, Lt. BROOKS had told me exactly where to park. After I made the purchase, he directed me to the Summit Police Department, but in fact it was a Fire station. I asked why Summit, he said that the sting operation covers three states, Wisconsin, Indiana and Illinois. Lt. BROOKS then handed me a yellow business envelope and told me to place the cash and gold coins inside because they needed to place them inside a machine to determine if they were real. Lt.

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BROOKS was suppose to come back to my car and bring me back the money and gold coins after determining if it was real, but he never came back. Lt. BROOKS also mentioned that I would get a commendation for my help. The last thing he said as he was leaving with the money, "Are you going to be o.k.?" When he left I did not see where he went, but I tried to enter the Fire house, but it was closed. I tried going around the block, but I couldn't find ^{sub him} her. I drove to my daughter's home and then we went to the 17th District because she said we needed to do this immediately. I have not seen or hear from any of them since.

EDWARDS:

Did you see anything that would identify the male subject as being a member of the Chicago Police Department or any other Police Department?

No just the silver star.

EDWARDS:

Did you see the vehicle he was driving?
No.

EDWARDS:

Please describe each subject and what they were wearing from head to toe.

He is about 509 or 510, male black, light complected. He had some hair, graying. No facial hair or glasses. He spoke with no accent. He looked to be 55-62 years old. He had a long black trench coat, a dark suit with a white shirt and tie. He looked like a business man, he was very polished.

EDWARDS:

Please describe [REDACTED] and what she was wearing from head to toe.

She is about 509 or 510, female black, light complected. She had a white fur with black, like a Russian winter hat. I could not see her hair because of the hat. No glasses. She spoke with a Caribbean accent. She looked to be 55-62 years old. She had a mid-length puff coat, a dark suit with a blouse, long leather boot, and skirt. She looked very professional and polished.

EDWARDS:

If you saw the subjects / offenders again, could you identify them?

I could probably identify them.

EDWARDS:

Are you willing to view an array of photos in hopes of possibly identifying the offenders?

Yes.

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Is there anything relative to this incident that you would like to add to this statement?

No.

EDWARDS:

After reading this statement consisting of 5 pages and finding it to contain accurately the questions asked and the responses that you have given, will you sign it?

Yes.

Statement concluded at: 1250 hours

Investigator:





Police Officer Donald L. EDWARDS # 5560, Unit 121


Police Officer Luis ALEJO #10381 Unit 121

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